

Columbus Police Department



2021 Annual Report



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Columbus Police Department



**Chief Of Police
Freddie Blackmon**



**Assistant Police Chief
Debra Kennedy**



**Assistant Police Chief
Joyce Dent-Fitzpatrick**

Police Officer	April 7, 1986
Detective	September 28, 1991
Sergeant	November 5, 1993
Lieutenant	September 29, 2007
Captain	August 7, 2013
Major	November 22, 2014

I am pleased to submit the Columbus Police Department's Annual Report for 2021 to the City Administration and the citizens of Columbus, Georgia. The report includes information concerning the department's organizational structure and statistical information concerning the department's accomplishments during the year.

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There were 8,192 Part 1 Crimes reported in 2021. Though not a Uniform Crime Report Part 1 statistic, we had 33 fatalities in 2021. This was a 57.14 % increase over the 21 fatalities in 2020. We had an increase of 7.92% total crashes and ended the year with 8,625 crashes investigated. In addition, the total line of duty injuries to Police Officers due to crashes and other incidents were down 12.00%.

The Police Department responded to 156,701 calls for service during the year. This represents a 9.88% decrease from 2020 (173,877) calls for service. This decrease in calls for services is attributed to less activity by the general public because of the COVID-19 Virus. In addition to responding to calls, our officers are in tune with the needs of the public and participate in numerous classes and safety programs designed to help the public. Our Traffic Division conducted 10 safety classes administered to 720 children and adults on bicycle and motorcycle safety. Six-hundred eighty three (683) donated bicycle helmets were given out to kids at no cost. For the third year in a row, Columbus was again recognized as achieving a **“Silver Level Bicycle Friendly Community”** status from the **League of American Bicyclists**, largely due to the community involvement of our traffic division.

The Columbus Police Department is the only police department in the United States to obtain a “Silver” status from The League of American Bicyclists.

Community Relations is a key component within the department’s Community Oriented Policing strategy. The Department is directly involved in partnerships and initiatives within the community. These partnerships include: Columbus Against Drugs, Neighborhood Watch, Partners in Education, DARE Program, Gang Resistance Education and Training Program (G.R.E.A.T.), Safe Kids, DUI awareness

training, Citizens Law Enforcement Academy, Seniors & Lawmen Together and Project Lifesaver. “Project Lifesaver” Is a program to help locate at-risk wanderers and Alzheimer patients that wander away from their homes. The program utilizes specialized equipment and trained law enforcement officers who track bracelets attached to the individuals. We currently monitor six individuals and keep the equipment prepared if ever needed.

The department continued its community outreach with faith-based leaders through “The Columbus Police Department Pastor’s Academy”. This five-week training is to give the participants a better understanding of how law enforcement functions and greater awareness of the challenges that face officers every day. It is emphasized

that this experience is shared with their congregations. The Training Division conducted Active Shooter Seminars for churches, business and other concerned citizens of the community.

Intelligence-Led Policing strategies and the Records Management System (RMS) continue to define the direction for the Columbus Police Department as we use these systems to analyze records and data for use in fighting crime in our neighborhoods. The Records Management System went live in February 2016; with RMS, we can better recognize criminal activity trends and patterns. With RMS we have improved on being pro-active and deploying out resources where they are needed most.

Recruiting and retention remains the biggest challenges faced by the Columbus Police Department. Forty-four (44) officers were hired, however (97) separated from

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the department leaving us short of full strength at the end of the year. Recruiting tactics using updated billboards, websites, Facebook, videos and job fairs are being utilized and we do receive a constant flow of new applicants. Unfortunately, our loss of both seasoned and junior officers continues to exceed the new hires. Our slogan is “Join the Force for Good” and our recruiters and officers are constantly seeking out qualified applicants that wish to join and become a long-term part of our department.

The Columbus Police Department has always been proactive in its approach to fighting crime in Columbus. We have collaborated with the citizens and businesses and have accomplished results in pulling communities together to restrict the occurrence of crime in our neighborhoods and business districts. With the support of the citizens of Columbus, the Columbus Police Department will continue to strive to make the city a safe and enjoyable place to live, work and play.

Polygraph

The polygraph Unit conducts polygraph

tests for the department as well as other federal, state and local agencies upon request.

During 2021, the Polygraph Unit conducted 14 tests. Of those 10 were pre-employee test and 4 were specific issue tests.

Budget

The Budget Office is responsible for the planning, preparation and administration of the department's annual budget. The Budget Office oversaw expenditures of over \$27.2 million in FY22. Their other responsibilities include federal grant management, invoice administration, reimbursement claims, procurement of office supplies, and conducting internal audits.

Other Specialized Units

The Chief's Office also oversees the activities of other specialized units that are staffed on an as-needed basis (officers who have other primary assignments within the department). These include the SWAT team, Crisis Negotiations, Honor Guard, Police Chaplain and the Columbus-Metro Emergency Response Team (C.M.E.R.T.) that is a part of the Columbus Department of Homeland Security.

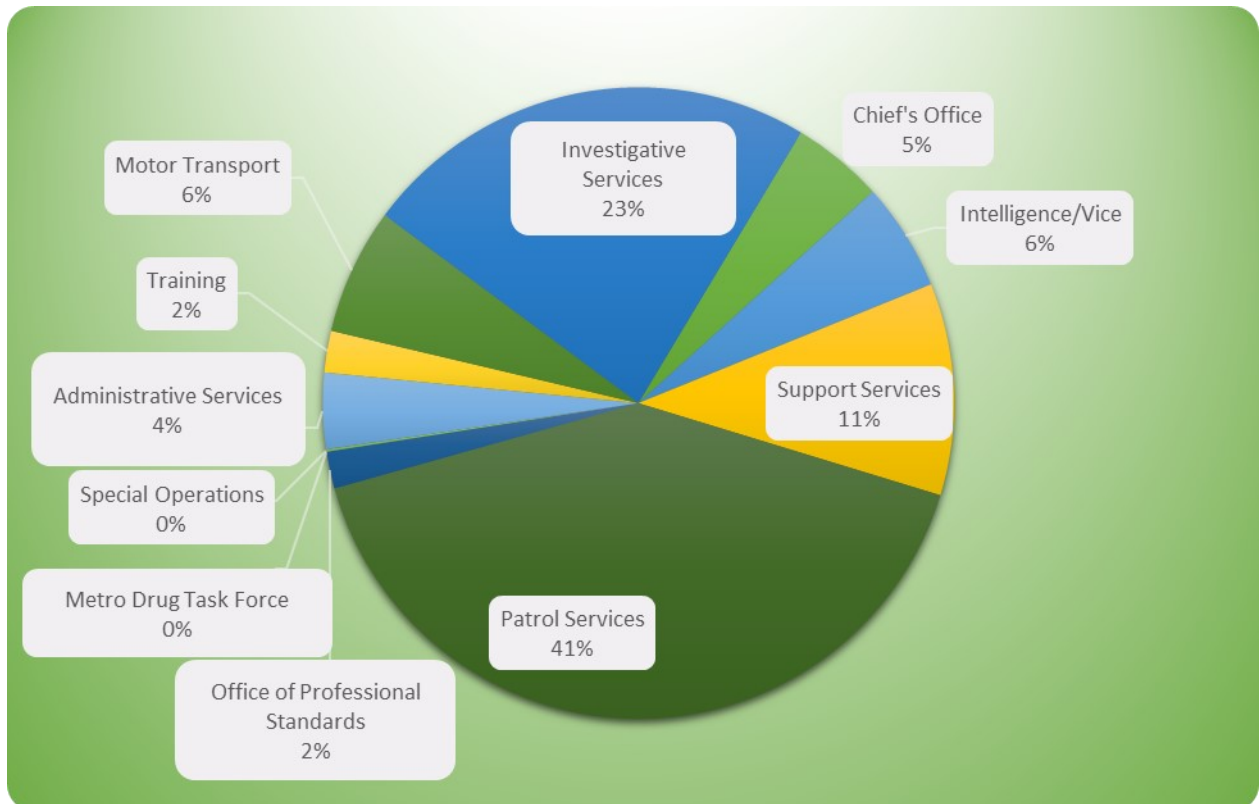


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2021 ANNUAL BUDGET REPORT

Budget	Actual FY'21	Actual FY'22*	Adopted FY'23
Chief's Office	1,093,146	1,242,990	1,343,950
Intelligence/Vice	1,422,108	1,354,284	1,580,270
Support Services	2,634,369	2,162,884	3,095,576
Patrol Services	11,378,052	10,291,549	11,674,860
Office of Professional Standards	545,339	559,498	540,548
Metro Drug Task Force	159,744	0	0
Special Operations	53,561	46,233	34,554
Administrative Services	1,028,317	1,112,866	1,110,187
Training	597,396	606,471	608,227
Motor Transport	1,712,885	1,731,881	1,845,656
Investigative Services	6,313,660	6,286,825	6,691,593
Total	26,938,578	26,938,578	28,525,421

*Unaudited



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Office of Professional Standards



Deputy Chief Roderick Graham

The major components of the Office of Professional Standards are:

Internal Investigations

Staff Inspections

Accreditation / Certification

Planning and Research

Criminal Intelligence Unit

Deputy Chief	1
Lieutenant	1
Sergeant	3
Corporal	1
Civilians	4

The Office of Professional Standards is charged with the responsibility of assuring the department maintains high standards and integrity. The Office of Professional Standards conducts internal investigations and staff inspections, ensures the department complies with accreditation and certification standards, completes planning and research assignments, and maintains a criminal intelligence unit. The Office of Professional Standards is staffed with a major, lieutenant, four sergeants, three crime analysts, and an administrative secretary.

The Office of Professional Standards also maintains data and completed reports concerning complaints, uses of force, and vehicle pursuits.

Internal Affairs

The Office of Professional Standards investigates complaints and violations of orders and regulations concerning employees of the Columbus Police Department as directed by the Chief of Police. The Office of Professional Standards also investigates any discharge of a firearm by an employee.

When the Office of Professional Standards is assigned a complaint by the Chief of Police, it is responsible for conducting a thorough, impartial and accurate investigation.

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The Office of Professional Standards also conducts special studies or investigations as directed by the Chief of Police. Such special studies or investigations are situations or circumstances that, by nature, require particular prudence or discretion deemed necessary by the Chief of Police.

Staff Inspections

The Office of Professional Standards conducts quarterly inspections of the Budget Office and two yearly inspections of the Evidence Rooms. The Office of Professional Standards also conducts other staff inspections or studies within the department as assigned by the Chief of Police. The results of staff inspections are reported to the Chief of Police.

Accreditation / Certification

The Columbus Police Department was initially accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) in 1993 and has maintained CALEA accreditation ever since. The process of accreditation has involved yearly reporting to CALEA and periodic on-site assessments. During the on-site assessments, the public is invited to provide feedback regarding the department. The department has been granted re-accreditation seven times since its initial accreditation and its most recent re-accreditation was in March of 2017. CALEA currently reviews electronic files every year to ensure the agency is maintaining compliance with the standards. In 2020 the Office of Professional Standards submitted the Department's proofs of compliance. The review of those proofs indicated that the Columbus Police Department continues to maintain compliance. CALEA sets forth 460 standards for law enforcement agencies. The Department had an on-site assessment in 2020 to evaluated for re-accreditation in 2021. Out of the approximately 18,000 agencies in the United States, there are currently less than 750 agencies awarded law enforcement accreditation from CALEA.

The department also receives certification through the Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police (GACP). The department first received certification in 1999 and has maintained certification ever since. The process involve yearly reporting to the GACP and periodic on-site assessments. The department has received five re-certifications since 1999 and its most recent re-certification was in July of 2016. Out of the approximately 630 agencies in Georgia, there are currently less than 130 agencies certified by the GACP.

For more information on the accreditation or certification process, you may contact CALEA at <http://www.calea.org/> or GACP at <https://gachiefs.com/>.

Planning and Research

The planning and research function is important for developing, updating, and analyzing the future strategies in law enforcement for the Police Department. The Planning and Research function is the source of information and the focal point for budget developments, forms control, strategic operational planning, and information management. All planning proposals emanate from the Planning and Research function to the Chief of Police.

Criminal Intelligence Unit

The Criminal Intelligence Unit (CIU) of the Columbus Police Department is responsible for collecting, retaining, disseminating, and the final disposition of criminal intelligence information. The Intelligence Unit Officer-in-Charge (OIC) is the Department liaison with other law enforcement agencies for the exchange of intelligence information under the provisions specified.

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The function of the CIU is to gather information from any source in a manner consistent with the law and analyze received information to provide strategic, tactical and/or operational intelligence on the existence, identities, and capabilities of criminal suspects and enterprises. It is also the function of the CIU to detect and disrupt criminal activities, to include matters of Homeland Security.

The CIU is responsible for the direction of intelligence operations, coordination of personnel, collection, evaluation, collation, analysis, and the dissemination of intelligence information collected by or forwarded to the Columbus Police Department.

In addition to intelligence, the CIU performs crime analysis. This involves analyzing data associated with all criminal activity dealt with by the department. Data from traffic, patrol, and investigative services is gathered for analysis. This data may be gathered from computer sources or from actual reports.



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Report for 2021

Investigations	13
Number of employees involved	16
Exonerated	4
Sustained	9
Not Sustained	0
Still under investigation	3
Rescinded	0
Complaints Tracked	28
Number of officers involved	35
Number of civilians involved	0
Complaints sustained	7
Not sustained	0
Exonerated	9
Unfounded	10
Policy Failure	0
Still under investigation	1
Use of Force Tracked	50
Number of officers involved	74
Justified	45
Not Justified	3
Still under investigation	2
Use of Deadly Force Tracked	2
Number of officers involved	3
Justified	1
Not Justified	0
Still under investigation	1
Vehicle Pursuits Tracked	34
Number of officers involved	70
Officers not in compliance with pursuit policy	7
Officers not in compliance with mobile recording policy	8
Researches Completed	177
Inspections Completed	7
Lawsuits Tracked	15
Policy Revisions	37

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Criminal Intelligence

<u>Bulletins disseminated</u>	<u>280</u>
<u>Homeland Security & Intelligence items Reviewed</u>	<u>11</u>
<u>Parcels entered into Intelligence Database</u>	<u>5,086</u>
<u>Monthly Analysis Reports</u>	<u>12</u>
<u>Crime Graphics disseminated</u>	<u>105</u>



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Bureau of Patrol Services



Deputy Chief Clyde Dent

The Bureau Of Patrol Services Consists of:

Field Operations

Uniform Patrol
Beat Patrol Units

Traffic Enforcement
Motor Squad
Hit and Run Investigations

Specialized Units
Bicycle Squad
School Crossing Guard

Personnel Summary

Deputy Chief	1
Captains	3
Lieutenants	10
Sergeants	33
Command Sergeants	2
Corporals	39
Police Officers	75
Civilians	2

The Bureau of Patrol Services provides the most direct and immediate response to requests for police services for the city of Columbus. Over the years the bureau has expanded into several specialized units that provide fast and effective re-

Uniform Patrol

This division comprises the bulk of the manpower assigned to the bureau and provides uniform patrol services to the city 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. It is comprised of three shifts, day, evening and morning watches, each commanded by a captain, that provide a full range of emergency and non-emergency services to the entire city.



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Specialized Units

This is a collection of specialized units that provide varying services to the community such as in parades, escorts, community services, details and bicycle safety classes.

Traffic Enforcement

Motor Squad

This division consists of highly trained motorcycle officers, who provide traffic enforcement and motor vehicle crash investigation services.



and business areas as needed. They are particularly used when normal motor vehicle are either unusable or ineffective. The officers assigned to this unit also conduct many bicycle rodeos and other related safety campaigns in Columbus and surrounding areas.



School Crossing Guard Unit

This is a group of specially trained civilians that provide safe pedestrian access to school properties for our children. A police corporal manages this unit in a cooperative administrative arrangement between the city of Columbus and the Muscogee County School District

Hit and Run Investigations

This unit is responsible for the follow-up investigation of hit and run motor vehicle accidents.

Bicycle Patrol

These officers are specially trained to provide a quick and quiet response to requests for police service. Eight officers are assigned to this unit. They are primarily assigned to patrol the Riverwalk, walking trails and city parks, but they may also be used tactically in residential

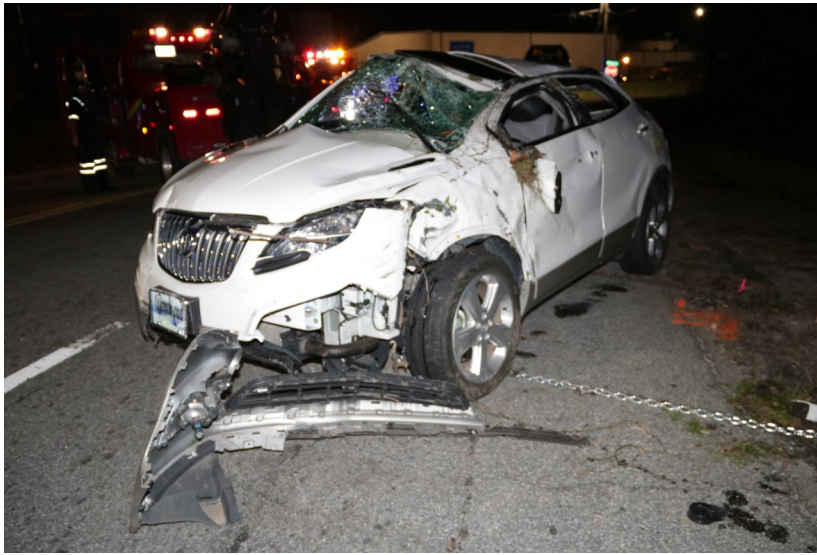
In Summary

Uniform patrol is often referred to as the "backbone of the department". The professionalism and high standards of conduct displayed by our officers during their tour of duty proudly reflect the importance of this principle.

2021 Selected Activity Analysis	
Officers Contacts	268,623
Reports	52,692
Arrests	18,160
Tickets	50,006

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2021 Fatal Crash Report



The Motor Squad investigated 32 collisions in 2021 that resulted in the deaths of 33 persons. Of the 33 deaths in 2021, **(10) or 30%** involved a pedestrian. Of the (10) deaths, all were the fault of the pedestrian. The remaining **(23)** deaths involved motor vehicles and of those, **(6)** involved a motorcycle. In the collisions involving the motorcycles, all of the motorcycle riders were wearing DOT approved helmets and all were the fault of the rider and **(4)** involved speed.

There were **(33)** persons killed in collisions w/ **(17)** having the opportunity to wear restraint devices and **(9) or 27%** of the drivers/occupants chose not to wear a restraining device at the time of the collision. Of the **(33)** deaths, **(23) or 69% involved or is suspected of alcohol and/or drug use.**

The following is a breakdown of additional information concerning the 32 fatal collisions in 2021:

Day of Week (Fatal Collisions)

DAY	Collision	Fatalities from Collision	Percentages
Sunday	7	7	21%
Monday	4	4	12%
Tuesday	7	8	24%
Wednesday	4	4	12%
Thursday	4	4	12%
Friday	4	4	12%
Saturday	2	2	06%
Total	32	33	

In 2021, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday yielded **(4)** fatalities each. The most fatalities were on Tuesday **(8)** and Sunday **(7)** respectively combined for a total of **(15)** or **45%** of the total fatal collisions.

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In 2021, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday yielded **(4)** fatalities each. The most fatalities were on Tuesday **(8)** and Sunday **(7)** respectively combined for a total of **(15)** of **45%** of the total fatal collisions.

Times	Crashes	# Killed		Times	Crashes	# Killed
0001-0100	2	3		1201-1300	1	1
0101-0200	1	1		1301-1400	1	1
0201-0300				1401-1500	1	1
0301-0400				1501-1600	3	3
0401-0500	2	2		1601-1700	1	1
0501-0600	1	1		1701-1800	1	1
0601-0700				1801-1900	2	2
0701-0800	2	2		1901-2000	4	4
0801-0900				2001-2100	3	3
0901-1000	1	1		2101-2200	3	3
1001-1100				2201-2300	2	2
1101-1200				2301-2400	1	1

The times of day that the fatal collisions occurred in 2021 indicate that the most fatalities occurred between several different time frames w/ 1901-2000 **(4)**, being the most and the next being the hours of 0001-0100, 1501-1600, 2001-2100, and 2101-2200 hours with **(3)** each. So, in 2021, **(16)** or **50%** of all fatalities occurred during those time frames. During 2021, the Motor Squad had **(5)** or **15%** of the **(32)** fatal collisions occur during normal working hours. The remaining eleven **(27)** collisions, or **85%**, required **(4)** Motor Squad Officers, a Sergeant, and a Lieutenant to be called in to work these collisions. There were also **(8)** collisions in 2021 that were Serious in nature or thought to be potential fatalities that were investigated by the Motor Squad. There were also **(2)** collisions with a death that were ruled as Medical Related. These collisions also required **(4)** Motor Squad Officers, a Sergeant, and a Lieutenant to be called in outside normal working hours.

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Months of Occurrence (32) (Fatal Collisions)

January	0	0%	July	3	09%
February	2	06%	August	3	09%
March	4	12%	September	5	15%
April	4	12%	October	2	06%
May	4	12%	November	0	0%
June	3	09%	December	2	06%

The most fatal collisions occurred during the month of September (5) and the months of March, April, and May all had a total of (4) each. January and November were the two months that had no fatal collisions.

Cause / Violation (32) Fatal Collisions

Driver Lost Control/Speed	3	09%
Improper Lane Change	9	28%
Failure to Yield	7	21%
Pedestrian Violation	10	31%
Striking a Fixed Object	4	12%

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The **leading cause** of fatal collisions in 2021 were **Pedestrian Violations** which totaled **(10)**. **Pedestrian Violations** were also the leading cause in 2020, **(7)**. Pedestrian fatalities continue to increase.

Traffic deaths in Columbus increased from **(21)** people killed in 2020 compared to **(33)** in 2021. In 2020 the number of persons killed not wearing a restraining device was **(2)**. This number also increased to **(9)** in 2021. It is highly probable that these **(9)** fatalities could have been avoided or dramatically reduced had these individuals been wearing their restraining devices. Seat Belt and Child Restraint compliance is mandatory and is strongly influenced by enforcement.

Pedestrians, excessive speed, as well as blatant traffic violations on all roadways in Columbus is a **major problem** that is only going to escalate with our ever-growing population, covid restrictions, and manpower issues.

Continued selective enforcement, bi-monthly details and special details should continue with a heavy concentration in problem areas. Based on the continued role that Covid plays as well as the continued reduced manpower it is unclear if this can be established again and maintained, at least in the near future.

In 2016 Columbus had 27 traffic fatalities
In 2017 Columbus had 25 traffic fatalities
In 2018 Columbus had 21 traffic fatalities
In 2019 Columbus had 21 traffic fatalities
In 2020 Columbus had 21 traffic fatalities
In 2021 Columbus had 33 traffic fatalities

Over the past **(6)** years, the **average number** of traffic fatalities in Columbus **has increased to (25)** fatalities per year.

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Bureau Of Investigative Services



Deputy Chief Ronald Hastings

The major components of the Bureau of Investigative Services are:

Robbery/Assault Division

Homicide Division

Property Crimes Division

Special Victims Division

Crime Scene Investigations Division

Special Operations Unit

Personnel Summary

Major	1
Captains	2
Lieutenants	5
Sergeants	22
Corporals	36
Police Officers	2
Reserve Officers	1
Civilians	9

The Bureau Of Investigative Services provides follow-up specialized investigative services, particularly of Part 1 Crimes as recognized by the FBI. Organizational structure and divisional responsibility is defined primarily by the type of criminal activity investigated.

Robbery/Assault Division

This division specializes in Part 1 Crimes dealing with robberies of businesses & individuals and personal assaults. It also has a Sexual Assault Unit that specializes in rape and other sexual assaults.

Homicide Division

This unit deals primarily with criminal or suspicious deaths that involve long-term and /or high-profile investigations. It handles recent cases and unsolved cases from previous years.

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Property Crimes Division

This division investigates burglaries, felony thefts, improper use of documents of legal tender and other financial related crimes.

It monitors local pawn shop activity by checking pawnshops for possible stolen items, maintaining a computerized database of all pawned articles and the investigation of persons involved with stolen pawned items.

It also has an Adult/Youth Services Unit which investigates incidents involving juveniles (less than 17 years old) and adults such as missing persons, elderly, and child abuse.

Crime Scene Investigative Division

This division is a highly specialized unit that requires all officers to be state certified in crime scene processing which includes crime scene documentation, processing, and evidence collection. Each officer assigned to this unit must meet all qualifications to be accepted as an expert witness in judicial hearing. This unit is also responsible for the fingerprinting of all juvenile offenders.



Special Operations Division

This division investigates complaints concerning narcotics, trafficking, prostitution, gambling, and ABC violations. In addition, this unit consists of a tactical unit that can be deployed to handle any situation that requires an immediate law enforcement response, such as crime suppression details for burglaries and robberies. The tactical unit also assists in the suppression of narcotic crimes.

It also bears responsibility for apprehension of wanted suspects who have been arrested by authorities in jurisdictions outside of the Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit, including nationwide.



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2021 Cases Investigated by the Bureau of Investigative Services

Cases Investigated	Case Assigned
Homicide	69
Rape	58
Robbery	260
Aggravated Assault	691
Burglary	779
Larceny	5277
Motor Vehicle Theft	1064
Total Part One Crimes	8,192
All 2021 Cases investigated by the Investigative Bureau	8,106
Fingerprints Lifted	1,686

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Bureau of Support Services



Deputy Chief Lance Deaton

The major components of the Bureau of Support Services are:

911 Center
Property and Evidence
Quartermaster Unit / Motor Transport Unit /
Evidence Section / Custodial
Services

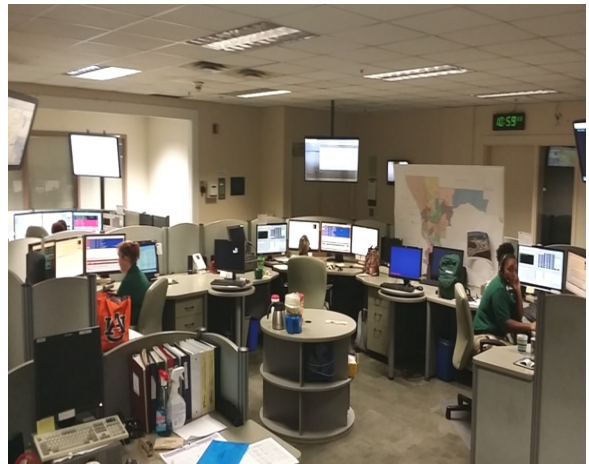
Record Room
Desk Services
Online Report
Report Writing
Open Records

The Bureau of Support Services, as the name implies, provides services that support the primary roles of patrol and investigative services.

Personnel Summary

Major	1
Captain	1
Lieutenants	1
Command Sergeant	1
Sergeant	3
Corporals	4
Reserve Police Officers	7
911 Dispatchers	46
Cadets	1
Civilians	25

911 Center



The 911 Center provides public safety communications and dispatching services for the police, fire and E.M.S. departments as well as other public safety agencies in the area. A highly trained and capable civilian staff of call takers and dispatchers provide efficient services using state-of-the-art communications hardware.

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Property and Evidence



Known in-house as P&E, this unit's primary function is to receive, inventory and process all evidence and found property. All property is ultimately disposed of according to the law and/or departmental policy. Disposal may be made by the destruction of the item, by forwarding it to other agencies as appropriate, by returning the item to its rightful owner or by public auction.

Quartermaster Unit



The quartermaster unit maintains a complete inventory of all building property, furniture and other capital equipment excluding automobiles. The quartermaster unit maintains a complete stock of uniforms, equipment and supplies for issuing to officers and other employees. It is also responsible for receiving, logging and disbursing all deliverable materials except non-parcel mail.

Motor Transport

The motor transport unit maintains an inventory of motor vehicles used by the department, including the individually assigned vehicles. Careful record keeping is maintained, especially in tracking of operational, maintenance and repair costs. Analysis of the financial impact of the individually assigned vehicle program reveals, as was promised when the program was approved and implemented more than twenty years ago, tremendous cost savings despite an increase in the number of vehicles maintained. This savings is a direct result of individual accountability for each vehicle and a strict and rigorous inspection procedure. The motor transport unit also oversees the installation and maintenance of the computers video and radar equipment in each of the patrol "supercars".

Under the old fleet system, where police units operated around the clock, the cars rarely lasted more than a year or two and experienced very high operational costs after a short time on the streets. In addition, the appearance of the vehicles were hard to keep up. Under the individually assigned vehicle program, police units routinely last five years or more and maintain a like new appearance and performance during their entire lifetime at a fraction of comparable operational and maintenance cost.

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Record Room



The record room maintains and processes legal documents, such as traffic citations and warrants. The unit also maintains and monitors the digital Records Management System (RMS). Certain digital information in RMS is extracted and manually entered into the GCIC, NCIC and local database. Also, request from the general public for expungement of criminal history information is also processed.

This includes the dynamic exchange of information and data services with other local, state and federal agencies via the GCIC (state) and NCIC (national) networking databases. GCIC information is also validated into the most current and updated information.

This unit provides the initial point of contact for persons visiting our department and provides counter services 10 hours a day, 5 days a week except for Holidays. The public can obtain police reports, criminal histories, several types of permits and any other information that can legally be disseminated.

Desk Services provides incident reporting services, including supplement reports and follow-up contacts. This unit also coordinates the in-house mail services and communications.

The unit sergeant is responsible for maintaining the department's photo identification card system. All employees and authorized users of the building are issued a photo identification card which allows them access to the building based on their need and approved access.

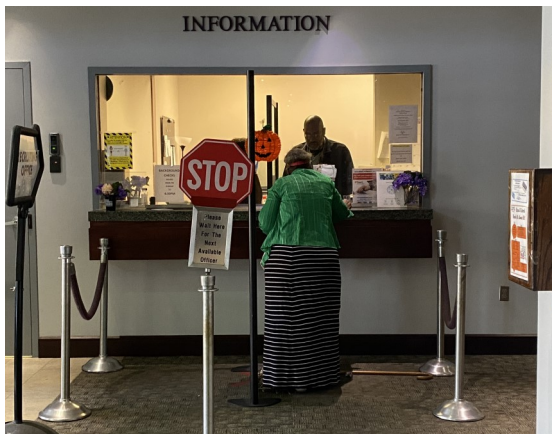
Open Records

The Georgia Open Records Act is a series of laws guaranteeing the public access to public records of government bodies. Public records are documents, videos, photographs, voice recordings and certain other information generated by government agencies in the course of their duties. Any citizen of the state can request public records that have not been exempt from disclosure.

As of Sunday, July 1, 2012, the responsibility for processing requests for records under the Georgia Open Records law was transferred from the Bureau of Professional Standards to the Bureau of Support Services.

There were 1,849 open records requests processed by Support Services during the year 2020. All 1,849 requests were processed. A total of \$13,913.66 in fees were collected as a result of the processed requests.

Desk Services



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Bureau of Administrative Services



Deputy Chief Wanna Barker –Wright

The Units of the Bureau of Administrative Services are as follows:

Training

Personnel

Recruiting Office

Crime Prevention

Personnel Summary

Majors	1
Captains	1
Lieutenants	1
Command Sergeant	0
Sergeants	5
Corporals	9
Police Officers	0
Civilians	6

The Bureau of Administrative Services manages several major and organizational functions as well as specialized programs that include the following units.

Training

The training division provides a variety of training, testing, and certification services for all department members. Most of this training is provided in-house, which includes in-service, recruit, field training officer, firearms training and much more. Outside training and certification services are also coordinated through this unit.

Personnel

Due to the large number of employees and special employment eligibility requirements, we maintain an in-house personnel unit that is responsible for several essential functions, including payroll management, police recruitment and pre-employment processing and record management requirements that go well beyond that of non-sworn city employees.

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Recruiting Office

The Recruiting Office is responsible for conducting all background investigations for Police Officer applicants for the department. Background investigations include physical fitness tests, home interviews, neighborhood canvass, employer and personal reference interviews, criminal, financial and driver history inquiries as well as polygraph and psychological exams. In addition to background investigations, recruiters also attend career fairs and other recruiting events in an effort to recruit a diverse group of applicants.

Crime Prevention

The Crime Prevention Unit is responsible for education, information and various community service programs as well as presentations for the pro-active purpose of preventing and reducing opportunities for criminal behavior to all citizens.

Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.)

The D.A.R.E. program is a primary prevention program directed at children who have yet to have their first alcohol or drug experience. It was taught during the first semester of the 2020 - 2021 school year. The uniformed officers assigned to this unit are certified as D.A.R.E. instructors. These officers coordinate with a representative from the Muscogee County School District, Ft. Benning area schools and a local private school to provide a ten week curriculum in 5th grade classrooms. D.A.R.E. lessons focus on four major areas:

1. Providing accurate information about gateway drugs.
2. Teaching Students decision-making skills.
3. Showing students how to resist peer pressure.
4. Giving students ideas for alternative positive activities.

The D.A.R.E. program also provides a summer component that reinforces the core curriculum and prepares students for middle school. The students participate in a variety of activities, games, as well as supplemental lessons and other educational material.



Partners in Education

In 1991, the Columbus Police Department adopted Forrest Road Elementary School as their partner in education. Over the years we have played an active role by participating in major activities and sharing time and talents in mutually beneficial interactions enjoyed by all.

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Crime Stoppers/ TipSoft

The Crime Stoppers Program provides citizens with an anonymous and reward earning opportunity to provide police with tips and information about suspects involved in criminal activities. The TipSoft Program is a management software program designed to communicate crime tips from citizens to police anonymously. The software program allows different services to send, receive, and reply to tips received electronically by texting, online reports, SMS or phone calls. TipSoft is maintained by Law Enforcement Agencies.

Seniors and Law Enforcement Together (S.A.L.T.)

The S.A.L.T. Program is a coalition of resources and commitments between law enforcement and senior citizens. The mutually beneficial results of this cooperative effort include the senior volunteer program, senior awareness classes, the task force for senior problems, and other projects.

The Explorers Program

The Boy Scouts of America's Explorers Program allows youth, from the ages of 13-20, to learn about particular career fields. On every Monday of each month, our explorer post meets to present various aspects of the law enforcement field to these young people.

Handicap Parking Enforcement

Under this program, volunteers are trained and authorized to enforce the handicapped parking ordinance in Muscogee County. This program has proved effective in citing those who abuse handicap parking privileges.

Neighborhood Watch Program

The Columbus Police Department has over 150 Neighborhood Watch Programs. This program is one important way citizens can work together to prevent crimes in their neighborhoods. The citizens that live in the neighborhood, along with the police department, organize the program. The Crime Prevention Unit instructs the citizens on what to do if they see a suspicious persons or activity in the neighborhood. It also deals with what actions they can take to deter certain crimes. The Neighborhood Watch Program in the community enhances the effectiveness of the police department.



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Senior Volunteer Program

The Senior Volunteer Program was implemented within the department in 1992. This program is designed to take advantage of the talents of many senior citizens within the community who have retired from other careers. These citizens have been willing and are able to assist the Columbus Police Department by performing many needed tasks and functions. They perform countless hours of labor that would normally have to be performed by salaried workers.

Citizens enrolled in Project Lifesaver wear a small personal transmitter around the wrist or ankle that emits an individualized tracking signal. If an enrolled client goes missing, the caregiver notifies their local Project Lifesaver agency, and a trained emergency team responds to the wanderer's area. Most who wander are found within a few miles from home, and search times have been reduced from hours and days to minutes. Recovery times for PLI clients average 30 minutes—95% less time than standard operations.

Project Lifesaver Program

The primary mission of Project Lifesaver is to provide timely response to save lives and reduce potential injury for adults and children who wander due to Alzheimer's, autism and other related conditions or disorders.



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Pastor's Police Academy

The Pastor's Police Academy was conceptualized to reach out to faith-based leaders of all races and cultures in order to increase mutual understanding and resolve any community concerns. The academy was also designed for pastors to learn more about the functions of each of the Department's bureaus, duties of the members of the Command Staff, along with the training and performance standards for the officers of the Columbus Police Department.

Internship Program

The Columbus Police Department has an Internship program for college and high school students, who hopefully will be potential future employees. The interns are challenged to assist with investigative tasks, when appropriate, and are also permitted to observe in many different patrol and criminal investigation situations including, but not limited to, interviews, investigative techniques, and crime scene/evidence processing. At times, interns may be assigned to attend law enforcement related training programs or observe officers participate in active training programs. Finally, interns may be assigned to observe court hearings, jury/non-jury trials, or other related processes.

Some areas Columbus Police Department interns may be assigned to are:

- Administrative Services
- Patrol Services
- Investigative Services
- Support Services (911 Communication)



National Night Out

National Night Out, an annual community-building effort that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood togetherness, takes place on the first Tuesday of August. National Night Out is coordinated and organized by the Crime Prevention Unit Officers from various agencies and arranged nine, along with family members, politicians, businesses, and civic organizations. National Night Out was a huge success.

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National Night Out

The Columbus Police Department organizes National Night Out each year on the first Tuesday in August. Law Enforcement, Fire, EMS, City Employees, City Council Members, and other business/organizations line up and travel to different areas within the City of Columbus to enhance the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. This annual event provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances. In 2019, ten convoy teams made 35 neighborhood/community stops.

DUI Awareness for High schools

DUI Awareness Classes were held at ten Muscogee County High Schools in the month of April. Interactive learning aids and DUI driving courses are provided by the Columbus Police Department to ensure that the youth are aware of the risk of driving while under the influence of alcohol/drugs. This is done in a prevention effort to encourage the youth to make safe driving choices.

Columbus Against Drugs Inc.

Columbus Against Drugs Inc. (C.A.D.) began in 1991 as the first original drug fighting group in the area. There is a collaborative work relationship between the community and law enforcement in an effort to stop and deter drugs and violence in our community. The Columbus Police Department organized camp outs in support of C.A.D.

Georgia Special Olympics

The Columbus Police Department began participating in the Georgia Special Olympics in 1983. The primary goal of this event is to raise funds

for the GA Special Olympics Athletes to have an opportunity to participate in the competition games. In 2021, we had a torch run and pistol match fundraiser that allowed the police department to donate over \$5000.00.

Security Task Force

The Columbus Police Department is a participant in the Security Task Force. Meetings are held with the Housing Authority of Columbus and law enforcement. The Housing Authority of Columbus provides information about illegal activity in the housing units within the city. The police department provides proactive, preventive, and safety information.



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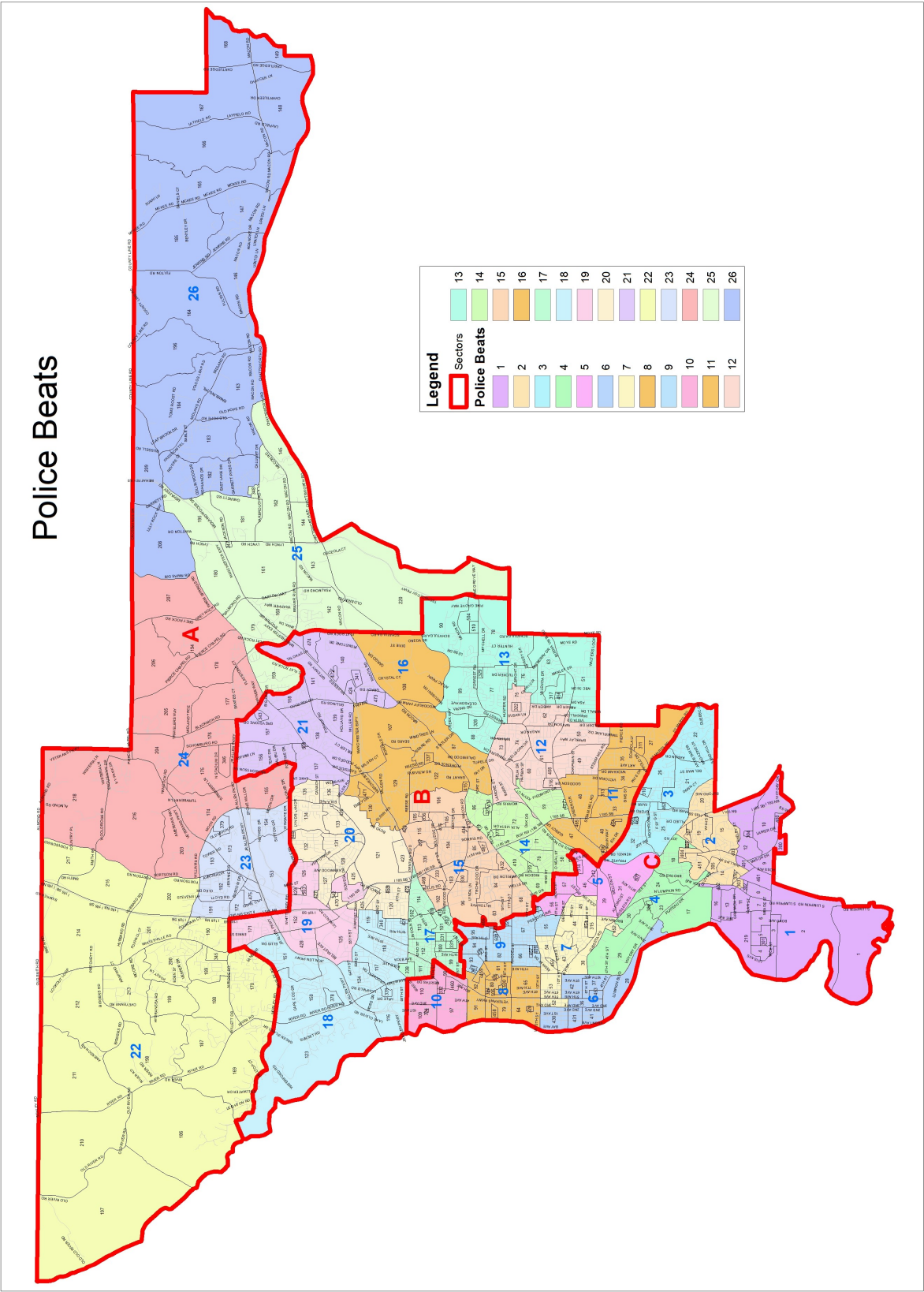
Selected Statistical Information by the Columbus Police Department

FBI Uniform Crime Report Part One Crimes	2020	2021	Change
Murder/Manslaughter	40	69	72.50%
Rape	59	58	-1.69%
Robbery	300	260	-13.33%
Aggravated Assault	460	691	50.22%
Burglary	701	779	11.13%
Larceny	4,318	5,277	22.21%
Motor Vehicle Theft	613	1064	73.57%
Number of Recovered Stolen Vehicles	313	582	85.94%
Number of Persons Arrested			
Males	5,271	4,027	-23.60%
Females	2,261	1,928	-14.73%
TOTAL	7,532	5,955	-20.94%
Family Violence			
Incidents of Reported Family Violence	1,074	1,420	32.22%
Traffic Citations & Accidents			
Traffic Accidents (Public Streets)	6,798	7,260	6.80%
Traffic Accidents (Private Property)	1,194	1,206	1.01%
TOTAL	7,992	8,466	5.93%
Hit & Run Accidents	2,159	2,287	5.93%
Injuries	2,135	2,347	9.93%
Fatalities	13	16	23.08%
Traffic Citations	32,006	24,361	-23.89%
Warnings	8,265	5,345	-35.33%
DUI Arrest	1,036	627	-9.90%
Traffic Accident Arrest	4,663	4,984	6.88%
Juvenile Offenses			
Number of Offenses Committed	1,384	1,088	-21.39%
Number of Juvenile Offenders	714	573	-19.75%
Males	434	371	-14.52%
Females	280	202	-27.86%
Number of Repeat Offenders	326	250	-23.31%
Number of Non-Repeat Offenders	388	323	-16.75%
Number of Juveniles Placed in Detention Home	127	151	18.90%
Number of Juveniles Placed in Foster Homes	0	0	0.00%
Line of Duty Injuries to Police Officers			
Officers Assaulted by Suspect	11	10	-9.09%
Motor Vehicle Accidents	5	17	240.00%
Pursuing Fleeing Suspects	15	9	-40.00%
Exposure to Contagious of harmful Substances	8	12	50.00%
Training Exercise	11	7	-36.36%
Other Non-Categorized	50	33	-34.00%
<i>To protect and serve the citizens of Columbus</i> TOTAL	100	88	-12.00%

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Sworn Officers	2020	2021	Change
Number of Officers Employed (Hired)	51	44	-13.73%
Number of Officers Resigned	41	86	109.76%
Number of Officers Retired	17	8	-52.94%
Number of Officers Terminated	0	3	300.00%
Number of Officers Deceased	1	0	-100.00%
Non-Sworn Employees			
Number of Civilians Employees (Hired)	14	21	50.00%
Number of Civilians Resigned	11	21	90.91%
Number of Civilians Retired	0	1	100.00%
Number of Civilians Terminated	0	0	0.00%
*Includes 911 Center Employed	12	15	25.00%
Absence From Duty (Days Lost)			
Illness (Sick & Family Medical Leave)	407	1,185	191.15%
Hazardous Duty Leave	85	8	-90.59%
Military Leave	759	140	-81.55%
Absent w/o Pay	335	137	-59.10%
Other Non-categorized	197	40	-79.70%
Total	1,783	1,510	-15.31%

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2021 Officers and Employees of the Month

Officers

January	Corporal Stuart Carter
February	Corporal James Jenkins
March	Corporal Garrett Moye
April	Corporal Richard Kimbrough
May	Corporal Christy Truitt
June	Officer Leandra Goodson
July	Officer Michael Aguilar
August	Sergeant Angela Florence
September	Lieutenant Jeffery Bridges
October	Officer Jack McCarty
November	Sergeant William House
December	Corporal Andrea Hall

Employees

January	Marianna Wheeler
February	Kathryn White
March	Bruce Robinson
April	Cynthia Baker-Raleigh
May	Cadet Crystal Talley
June	Gil Lujan
July	Marcie Miller
August	Shannon Hubbard
September	Suzanne Landrigan
October	Cassandra Bolen
November	Kendal Protho
December	Amber Kirkland

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~Employee of the Year~



Damekia Anthony **Emergency Communications Tech I** **Serving Since: August 2, 2021**

Ms. Damekia Anthony was selected as Employee of the Year for her actions on February 3, 2022.

On February 3, Ms. Anthony took a 911 call for Quincy Drive in reference to a female that was in labor with her child at 9 months.

The mother and child were in distress because the umbilical cord was wrapped around the infant's neck. Ms. Anthony was professional, calm, and compassionate which is what the caller needed to help the mother have a successful delivery. She followed all the necessary procedures and protocol to help the mother deliver her child. Because of the actions of Ms. Anthony, the mother and child are doing well.

This is only a brief summary of the qualities that clearly qualifies Damekia Anthony to be the **Columbus Police Department's 2022 Employee of the Year!**

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~Officer of the Year~



Officer Ist Class Kenneth Rammage **Serving Since: November 2, 2015**

On March 1, Officer Rammage observed a motor vehicle theft in progress on South Lumpkin Road (Valero Gas Station). He observed an individual pointing a pistol at a suspect that was attempting to steal a vehicle that had been left running in the parking lot. During the attempted automobile theft, the victim was shot at by a separate individual. The suspect who was attempting to steal the car fled and Officer Rammage gave chase. After a short pursuit, Officer Rammage captured the suspect.

The suspect (s) were armed and willing to hurt or murder an innocent civilian for a vehicle. Officer Rammage's quick thinking and willingness to act led to the capture of a suspect that would have likely continued to plague the city of crimes. His dedication to this profession qualifies him to be the **Columbus Police Department's 2022 Officer of the Year!**

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In Loving Memory



~ Richard (Rick) McMahan ~
CPD Command Sergeant

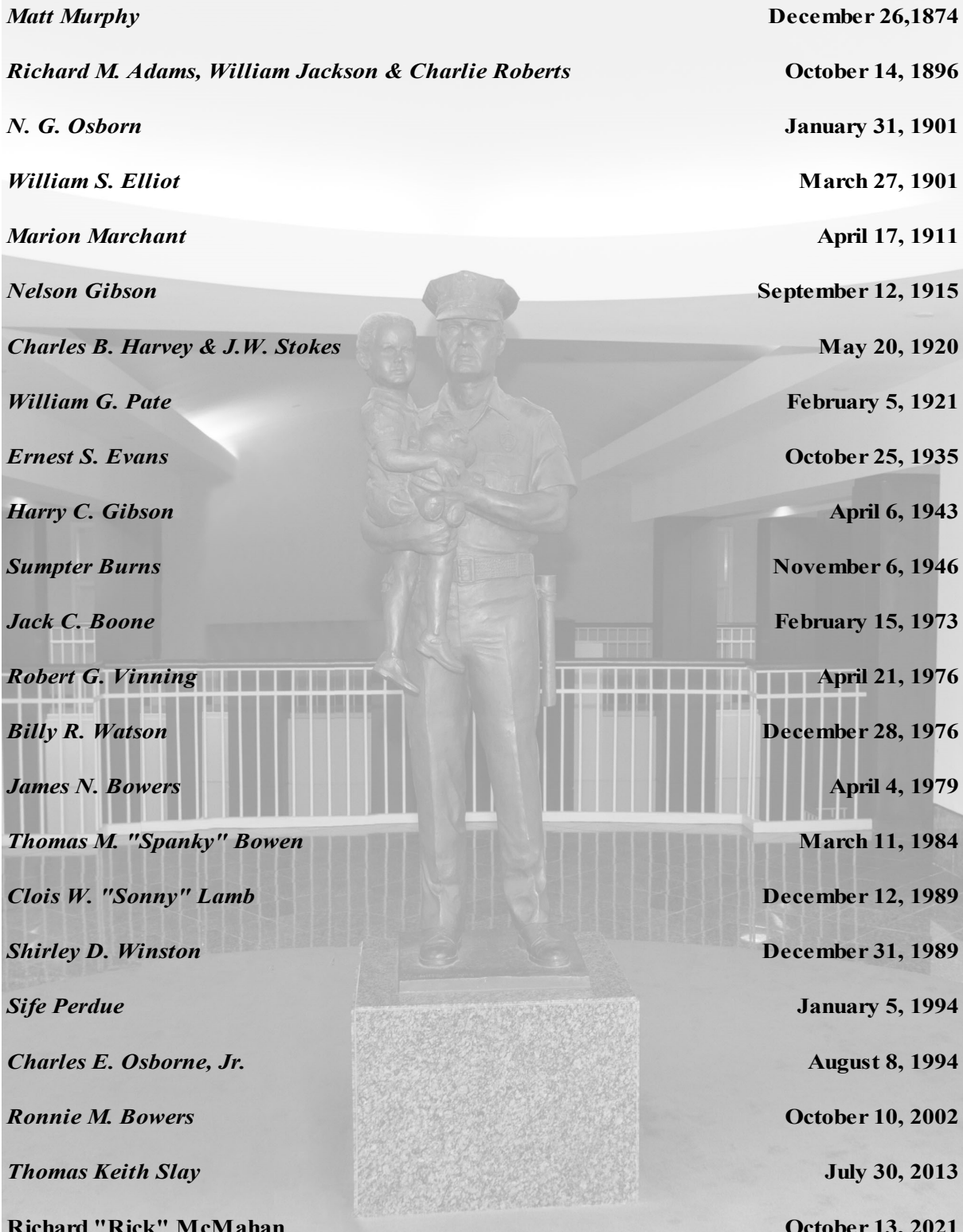
~ Bureau of Support Services ~
Property & Evidence



Columbus Police Department Service Time
January 31, 1981 - October 13, 2021

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IN MEMORIAM ***Line of Duty Deaths***



<i>Matt Murphy</i>	December 26, 1874
<i>Richard M. Adams, William Jackson & Charlie Roberts</i>	October 14, 1896
<i>N. G. Osborn</i>	January 31, 1901
<i>William S. Elliot</i>	March 27, 1901
<i>Marion Marchant</i>	April 17, 1911
<i>Nelson Gibson</i>	September 12, 1915
<i>Charles B. Harvey & J.W. Stokes</i>	May 20, 1920
<i>William G. Pate</i>	February 5, 1921
<i>Ernest S. Evans</i>	October 25, 1935
<i>Harry C. Gibson</i>	April 6, 1943
<i>Sumpter Burns</i>	November 6, 1946
<i>Jack C. Boone</i>	February 15, 1973
<i>Robert G. Vinning</i>	April 21, 1976
<i>Billy R. Watson</i>	December 28, 1976
<i>James N. Bowers</i>	April 4, 1979
<i>Thomas M. "Spanky" Bowen</i>	March 11, 1984
<i>Clois W. "Sonny" Lamb</i>	December 12, 1989
<i>Shirley D. Winston</i>	December 31, 1989
<i>Sife Perdue</i>	January 5, 1994
<i>Charles E. Osborne, Jr.</i>	August 8, 1994
<i>Ronnie M. Bowers</i>	October 10, 2002
<i>Thomas Keith Slay</i>	July 30, 2013
<i>Richard "Rick" McMahan</i>	October 13, 2021